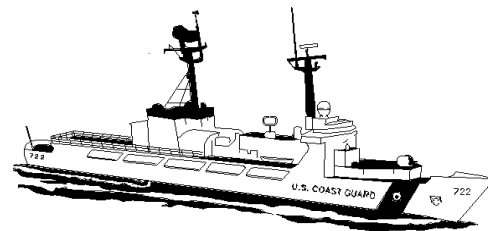


USCGC MORGENTHAU (WHEC 722)

Deployment News, 24 July 2005



Greetings from USCGC MORGENTHAU, underway in the Pacific Ocean! This is the first e-mail newsletter of our current deployment. We hope this newsletter keeps you well informed of the great accomplishments and happenings of the Pacific Area's ship of choice – USCGC MORGENTHAU.

So what's different about this deployment? To begin, this patrol is a vastly different mission than our last three deployments. Last summer we headed to the Bering Sea for international and domestic fisheries enforcement. In the late fall and winter we deployed for our bi-annual refresher training. Then in the late winter and early spring, we headed back north to the Bering Sea for another fisheries mission. This patrol is significantly different: it's an anti-drug deployment. We hope to put a dent in the drug smuggling trade and "catch the bad guys" who are attempting to smuggle drugs (mostly cocaine) north and eventually into the United States. This mission is very rewarding for our crew and we're all excited, hoping to get several seizures and add a few more snowflake stickers to our ship's superstructure, signifying the number of seizures we've had. Crew morale is high and we're anxious to start.

The Week in Review. We left homeport Sunday afternoon with many family members waving goodbye on the pier. We will miss you all and appreciate your support during this current deployment. Outbound to sea from Alameda, MORGENTHAU had an entertaining time dodging two huge cargo ships off the Port of Oakland. Fog met us under the Golden Gate Bridge, forcing us to cancel our planned helicopter operations with a local Coast Guard Air Station until Monday evening. Our transit south was fairly uneventful; Monday was spent getting used to being back at sea and "shaking the cobwebs loose" by practicing five very important emergency evolutions: fire at sea, man overboard, General Quarters (battle stations), an engine room fire and abandon ship. We perfected personnel assignments to emergency stations during these drills and tested communications circuits.



Watching the air drop: FS3 Dave Hubbard, DC3 Andrea Cooper, FN Jessica Garay and YN3 Laura Smith

Tuesday morning MORGENTHAU arrived in San Diego for a logistics stop en route to our operating area. We plan to embark a helicopter from Coast Guard Air Station Los Angeles this deployment, and it requires a significant amount of maintenance equipment and spare parts, all of which were onboard on Tuesday. Many of our law enforcement team members attended specific training on ion scanning techniques, a machine much like that in use at airports which detects traces of illicit materials. And our crew got a little bit of last-minute liberty that evening. Wednesday morning we shifted berths to the La Playa fuel pier for refueling. On the way over, something very, very serious happened: our engineers investigated a bit of smoke coming from our starboard (right-hand) main diesel engine's clutch, and found a significant amount of lube oil in the clutch itself. This is bad. The ship's new Main Propulsion Assistant, CWO2 Pat Barron, and his crew of engineering experts tackled the problem well into Wednesday night, finally

achieving success in locating the source of the lube oil and repairing it. MORGENTHAU stayed an extra night at the La Playa fuel pier (with no sewage services...so 150 people had to forget about showering the next morning!) and put to sea Thursday morning. It felt great steaming out of San Diego harbor with a full engineering plant, thanks to the leadership



Our HH-65 helicopter based out of Air Station Los Angeles

and efforts of MK1 Mark Childers, MK2 Darrell Ryan, MK3 Bret Steinle and the rest of Main Prop. Vice Admiral Harvey Johnson, the Coast Guard Pacific Area Commander, said it best of our engineers in an e-mail: "those MORGENTHAU engineers are fearless!"

Our Los Angeles-based helo landed on our flight deck Thursday evening; the same helo will remain with us for the entire patrol. We welcomed aboard pilots LCDR Dave Ehlers and LT Barry Miles, and flight crew AET2 Jeremy May, AMT2 Gary Billburg, and AMT3 Scott Jones as our new shipmates.



A Coast Guard C-130 from Sacramento performs a fly-by before a parts airdrop on Friday.

We have a very, very long transit to our operating area, taking well over a week. En route, the ship has plenty of preparatory work to do, and it all started Friday with an Alien Migration Interdiction planning summit, putting into writing the procedures we'd follow if we encountered a boat load of illegal immigrants. The Training Board (chiefs of all of our onboard training teams) also met to sketch out the ship's training strategy and schedule for the entire patrol. Our Chief Petty Officers also met on Friday to discuss various leadership/management issues. Our helicopter developed a blade-folding problem though – hopefully our second and last gremlin-type of annoying problem that might affect our operational readiness! It came down to a couple of bolts that wouldn't seat properly, making folding the blades back impossible before we put the helo to bed at night in our hangar. Air Station Los Angeles worked magic and within just a few short hours arranged for a Coast Guard HC-130 aircraft from Coast Guard Air Station Sacramento to air drop the



A beautiful eastern Pacific sunset this week.

required parts to us far out at sea. The air drop was quite the sight! The C-130 made several practice runs, buzzing us as every crewmember cleverly cited in unison, "negative, ghost rider, the pattern is full." Our small boat recovered the airdropped parts and after a few hours of repair work, our

helicopter is now fully mission capable.



The C-130 makes the first of two runs to airdrop parts to us in the Pacific Ocean

So...Saturday we flew, flew, flew! After a brief check-ride, our helicopter flew two sorties (miniature patrols) away from the cutter. It was sure nice seeing the helo in the air and our flight deck crew got to put their training into practice. We also conducted a helicopter in-flight refueling evolution, where we actually pass up a fuel hose to a hovering helicopter, and they refuel in mid-air. It's cool.

And while we were flying, the rest of the crew was busy with the traditional Saturday morning all-hands field day to clean up the ship. Our Chief Master-at-Arms, FSCS Randy Litka, inspected and awarded our weekly "best berthing area" to our Deck

Department forward berthing area, and each resident won a two-hour liberty card.

After flight quarters in the early afternoon on Saturday, we shifted to the Underway Holiday Routine for some crew rest, and opened up "Steel Beach" – the flight deck – for sunbathing. Our Weapons Department substituted as guest chefs for a Saturday evening barbeque on the fantail (the stern of the ship) and did a terrific job grilling burgers, chicken and corn; the entire ship was just gorged. The Morale Committee sponsored "Full Contact Bingo" later that evening, playing about forty rapid-fire games to a very energized (and aggressive) crowd. The grand prize winner during the blackout round was our new Supply Officer, CWO2 Tony Parker, who won a digital camera. The crew shouted jabs of "it's fixed, it's fixed" then the CO and XO each won three rounds. Rounding out our Saturday night Morale Night was the patrol premier of the "Flight Deck Movie Night", showing a great movie "Sin City" up on the helo hangar door. Thanks to our ET Shop, led by ETC Phil Miller, we all had a great movie night under a perfect night sky and a rising full moon.



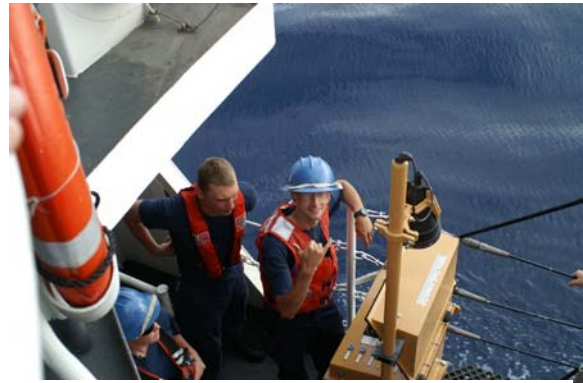
Nightly shipboard damage control training sessions started this week

Sunday is more Holiday Routine for crew downtime and rest. For the true diehard fishermen, we had sunrise trolling this morning, slowing down to a nice troll speed of 7 knots for a couple hours of fishing. We flew our helicopter again this evening for a couple of sorties as well as evening and night landings and night vision goggle aided night landings. This week has been a great start to this fast-paced, high-intensity deployment!

From the Bridge: Greetings from the Eastern Pacific! It's great to be underway again and back in the game. The crew has performed



marvelously in all accounts during our first week back at sea - knocking the rust off a few places, with new hands - and a few old salts - getting their sea legs back underneath them. We've had a busy and productive week focusing on training and familiarization, so we've been working very hard. Rest assured, although it's starting to get much warmer, we're nearly unanimous in agreeing that we're ready for a change in climate after our last two Alaskan patrols. As always, we appreciate your thoughts and support as we conduct our business, as ours are with you all. Best regards, Captain M. E. Sullivan



SN Rick Spicer breaking-in at the controls of MORGENTHAU's new dual-point davit

We asked some of our crew what they were looking forward to during this patrol. Most said "not going to Dutch Harbor again and again and again." So, omitting the Alaska references, here are their answers (hometowns listed, too):

- "Because chasing drugs is cool" ENS Mike Hjerstedt, Podunk, WI
- "So I can come back skinny and tan for my sweetheart" BM3 Nathaniel Frazee, Bakersfield, CA
- "To enhance my LE career and for America" SNBM Chris Kuhr, Rohnert Park, CA
- "All of the wonderful and exciting opportunities to really screw up a drug smuggler's day" SN Richard Spicer, Herndon, VA
- "First tour underway, love being on the blue ocean, looking forward to coming home with a phat paycheck and to a new family member" SN Sean Bahl, Yuma, AZ
- "No comment, or I'd violate OPSEC" HSC Rebecca Vinlove, McLouth, KS
- "Seeing new places, getting good training; generally a good patrol – having fun and being safe" MK3 Edwin Prince, Long Island, NY
- "Because the weather is not overcast, the sun is shining, and I can finally wear my cool t-shirt" ENS Todd Devries, Winchestertonfieldvilletown, IA
- "Never been!" FS3 David Hubbard, Ontario, CA
- "Swim call!" FS3 Anna Henson, Livermore, CA
- "Port calls!" BM3 Jessica Young, Huntington Beach, CA
- "Happy to finally be getting underway" 1/c Cadet Sarah Morin, Sherborn, MA
- "I saw flying fish today!" 1/c Cadet Jeremy Yandell, Eules, TX
- "Because I'm stuck in a small space with Kyra Van Echo and Pam Wade for 3 months!" ENS Erin Pigors, Hendersonville, NC
- "Fulfilling my civic duty by helping out the geriatrics unit... XO..." ENS Elizabeth Gillis, Grand Rapids, MI
- "Seeing new places" ENS George Hall, Long Island, NY
- "Excited to meet the crew while cruising in such a beautiful part of the world" 1/c Cadet Joe Coffman, Nashville, TN
- "Seeing different beautiful countries" YN1 David Blackwell, Opelousas, LA
- "Going to countries I've never been to and then looking forward to the transit home" ENS Steve Arnwine, Glen Burnie, MD

- "I like the line-crossing idea – I'm already a shellback. And looking forward to finally getting qualified" MK1 Eric Arwood, Placerville, CA
- "Having a lot of fun at the port calls and chillin' on the beach" OS1 Stephen Aragon, Fresno, CA & OS2 Brandon Clarke, Staten Island, NY
- "Excited about the upcoming port calls" Chief's mess
- "...and looking forward to returning home" MKCS Aaron Relford

Four first class cadets (seniors) from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT are joining us for the first part of this deployment: 1/C Tom Carey, 1/C Sarah Morin, 1/C Jeremy Yandell and 1/C Joe Coffman. They'll join the fleet in a year as newly commissioned Ensigns.



Cadets 1/c Sarah Morin and Jeremy Yandell

Crew recognition this week:

- ENS Brandon Horne, selected for promotion to LTjg
- ENS Todd Devries, selected for promotion to LTjg
- ENS Elizabeth Gillis, selected for promotion to LTjg
- ENS Michael Hjerstedt, selected for promotion to LTjg
- ENS Steve Arnwine, selected for promotion to LTjg
- ENS Piero Pecora, selected for promotion to LTjg
- LTjg Arthur Dehnz, received CG Achievement Medal
- FN Austin Hannasch, certified as a Security Watchstander
- FSCS Randy Litka celebrated (yet another 29th) birthday on 21 July

Personal greetings from our crew to our family and friends:

- OS1 Steve Aragon sends: "Here we go again ! I dig and miss the two of you, keep busy and safe."
- OS2 James Bacon sends: "Crystal, I love you baby, and I hope everything is going well."
- OS3 Jeremy Borja sends: "Two my beautiful girls at home, I love you and miss both of ya'll very much and can't wait to see ya'll again. Gabby, how does Sinba go...ROAR!!"
- MK2 Chris Breuer sends: "I love you, Jess!"
- CDR Mark Dietrich sends: "Ellen, John, Mary and Julia, I miss you all so much already. John, happy 12th birthday on the 29th – I wish I could be there for your movie party! Love, Dad"
- ...and "FDD, here's your shout-out. Finally. Happy?"
- OSC Brian Dorsey sends: "Sweetie, I know you're working hard with the home schooling and am proud you are taking on such a big project. I miss you tremendously. Tell the little ones I am looking for the most special gift to bring them when I return. Love, Me."
- SN Ryan Dunn sends: "I love you guys and miss you."
- LT Mike Fisher sends: "Brian and D, say hello to the Class of 95 from me out in the Pacific Ocean. I really regret not being able to make it. 10 years flies by! Hey Mom, Dad, Kristin, Kelli, Cameryn and Matt, I am doing well. The weather is better than Alaska!"
- OS3 Pascal Fraisse sends: "Mom and Dad, I love you guys and miss you!! Big kisses to Daisey!"
- EMC Al Gieb sends: "MRG L&M AKG"
- BM1 Jeff Hamilton sends: "Tiki Or 'Claire': I love you, miss you and will see you in my dreams. Take it easy at work, let 'Claire' handle all the crazies. If it's not the full moon, it must be the heat. Love you!!! Skipster. To Ollie D. & Matilda J.: STAY OFF THE

NEW FUNITURE!!!! To Mom & Dad Hamilton: I'll take plenty of pictures and stay safe. Love you, Jeff"



Weapons Department acts as guest chefs for our Saturday evening morale barbecue on the fantail. Great food!

- ETC Dave Holder sends: "To Adam Nicholas Holder, Happy 14th B-day, armpit boy!!!! To the Haygoods, congrats on the new great grandbaby Chloe. Send scooter an 'Ata Girl'."
- FSCS Randy Litka sends: "I love you Brenda, Lindsey, Shauni & Binky. I can't wait to be with you all again soon. Have a great summer and remember that I love you and miss you dearly. This time next year we will be together always."
- FN Blake Mabry sends: "Janice, I love you very much and miss you a whole bunch and tell my Daisy Dog I miss her too. I love you guys!"
- BM3 Matt McCullough sends: "Hey everybody, I just wanted to tell everyone that I miss you and that I am having a good time out here. There has been a lot of flight ops going on the past few days but other than that, it has been pretty relaxing. Everyone is trying to get as much sun as possible, especially me. Hopefully when we get to our first port call, I will be able to call everyone and tell them how things have been going. Well, got to run; I have to go up to watch. Love you all. Matthew"
- BM3 Sarah Morin sends: "Frodo, can't wait to see you when we pull in...just a couple more weeks then a couple more. Love you lots. Sarah"
- SNBM Caleb Paramo sends: "Hello honey, I love you so much. Just remember, my last patrol!!!!"



Deck Force Warriors getting ready to cook dinner: SN Jon Sains, BM3 Nate Frazee, SN Sam Kerger, SN Dan Brown and (seated) SK3 Mike Simonetti, who's not really part of Deck Division but who did help a bit with the grilled corn

- ENS Piero Pecora sends: "I love you Kyrstyn, I'll be home some day. Good luck in TSTA. Don't punch Wendy."
- OS1 Al Rivera sends: "AJ and Dawnre I love you and miss you both very much!"
- SN Jonathan Sains sends: "Hey Cin, Bryn, Yaya, and Kapu, I'll be home soon. Love Daddy."

- OS3 Brian Soto sends: "What to Say? I love you to my wife Nadia, and hi to my parents and my mother and father-in-law."
- FS1 Mike Simpson sends: "Blake - Happy Birthday buddy! I hope you had a great day and I can't wait to see you. Chelsie - I love you beautiful :)"
- SNBM Raquel Spear sends: "Mom and Dad, sorry I haven't written. I will as soon as I can. :) I love only you, Ryan."
- LT Greg Tozzi sends: "Emily, good luck with your interviews. I miss you, and I love you! – Greg"
- SK2 Ben Warholoski sends: "To my wife, my parents and the in-laws, thank you guys for everything you've done for us lately. We couldn't have made it here without you guys, and I love you and miss you very much, my wife."

Many, many new crewmembers reported aboard MORGENTHAU during our last inport and are sailing with us for the first time. We all welcomed them aboard as shipmates and comrades in arms:

- FA James Adams, CG Recruit Training Cape May
- GM3 Daniel Baenziger, CG Training Center Yorktown GM "A" School
- SN Sean Bahl, CG Recruit Training Cape May
- ENG2 Duane Barron, CGC POLAR SEA
- BOSN2 James Bigbie, CGC CUTTYHUNK
- OS3 Dustin Bingham, CG Training Center Petaluma OS "A" School
- MKC John Buckley, CG Station Umpqua River
- MK2 Eduardo Cabrera, CG SECTOR LA/LB
- SNOS Kelly Case, CG Training Center Petaluma OS "A" School
- MK1 Mark Childers, CG ANT Georgetown
- SN John Clare, CG Recruit Training Cape May
- DCC Russell Cox, CG Training Center Yorktown
- BMCS Darren Davis, CG ATG PACNORWEST
- ET2 Mark Edillon, CG ESD Moriches
- ENS Vincent Escobedo, CG NESU Alameda
- ET1 Troy Gracie, CG Pacific Area
- ENS George Hall, CG Academy
- FN Patrick Hamer, CG Air Station Los Angeles
- FA Austin Hannasch, CG Training Center Petaluma
- SK3 Brynn Healy, CG Training Center Petaluma SK "A" School
- ENS Peter Hsu, CG Academy
- GMC Mark Jacobs, CGC SHERMAN
- SKC Keith Johnson, CG Recruiting Command
- YNC Ann Ladd, CG MLC Pacific
- EM2 Timothy Leronimo, CG ISC San Pedro
- FN Thomas Lundberg, CG Recruit Training Cape May
- HS3 Timothy Marshall, CG Training Center Petaluma HS "A" School
- ET3 Anthony McGrath, CG Training Center Yorktown "C" School
- MK2 Brian Meachum, CG NESU Alameda
- SA Daniel Moraga, CG Recruit Training Cape May
- SNFS Luis Noriega, CG Training Center Petaluma FS "A" School
- F&S2 Anthony Parker, CGC STORIS
- FA Ejan Petrie, CG Recruit Training Cape May
- ENS Erin Pigors, CG Academy
- SA Jerit Romey, CG Recruit Training Cape May
- ENS Ernest Saponara, CG Academy
- SNBM Mary Schlicht, CG Training Center Yorktown BM "A" School
- OSC Kenneth Torquato, CG SECTOR Seattle
- ENS Kyra Van Echo, CG Academy
- ENS Pamela Wade, CG Academy
- BMC William Walper, CG Station Islamorada
- SK2 Benjamin Warholoski, CG MLC Atlantic
- FN Michael Williams, CG Recruit Training Cape May
- BM3 Jessica Young, CG MSST 91103 LA/LB

We'll be safe out here on the high seas – you be safe too at home, and thank you for your support, e-mails and care packages!



Best regards,

The Officers, Chiefs and Crew of
USCGC MORGENTHAU (WHEC 722)
"Decus Pacifici – Pride of the Pacific"

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